

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SAIGON 01849 191347Z

47

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

AID-05 OMB-01 IGA-01 IO-10 /067 W

----- 094738

R 191200Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2853

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

UNCLAS SAIGON 01849

DEPT PASS IMMEDIATE TO IBS/NCA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJECT: OPEN LETTER FROM SOUTH VIETNAMESE SENATORS TO

U.S. CONGRESS

REF: SAIGON 1100

1. TRANSMITTED BELOW IS TEXT OF LETTER, DATED FEB 4, SUPPORTING CONTINUED U.S. AID TO VIETNAM FROM 41 SOUTH VIETNAMESE SENATORS TO MEMBERS OF U.S. CONGRESS. LETTER, SIGNED BY ALL MEMBERS OF THE TWO PRO-GOVERNMENT SENATE BLOCS, WAS WRITTEN PARTLY IN RESPONSE TO JANUARY 17 LETTER SENT BY 12 LOWER HOUSE DEPUTIES TO U.S. CONGRESS (REFTEL). IT WAS TAKEN TO WASHINGTON BY GROUP OF VISITING GVN SENATORS. TEXT WAS PUBLISHED IN FEBRUARY 19 VIETNAM PRESS.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR SIRs,

IN OUR CAPACITY AS MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, WE ARE HONORED TO PRESENT TO YOU OUR VIEWPOINT ON THE PROBLEM OF U.S. AID FOR THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE WHICH HAS BEEN REFERRED TO YOU BY 12 REPRESENTATIVES IN THEIR LETTER DATED JANUARY 17, 1975. IN FACT, THESE 12 REPRESENTATIVES

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SAIGON 01849 191347Z

CONSTITUTE BUT A VERY SMALL MINORITY SINCE OUR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COUNTS A TOTAL OF 219 MEMBERS.

THESE 12 REPRESENTATIVES HAVE LAID BARE THE FOLLOWING
FACTS IN THEIR JANUARY 17, 1975, LETTER:

-- THE OPINION GIVEN IN THE LETTER WAS OF A MINIMUM
MINORITY AND WAS NOT APPRECIATED BY THE MAJORITY OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS;
-- SUCH AN OPINION DID NOT GET THE SUPPORT OF ANY RENOWNED
OPPOSITION REPRESENTATIVES OR SENATORS;
-- DEMOCRATIC ACTIVITIES ACTUALLY EXIST IN THE RVN AND
THEREFORE THOSE REPRESENTATIVES FULLY ENJOY LIBERTY OF SPEECH.
HOWEVER, THE OPINION OF A MINORITY, AS ACKNOWLEDGED BY DEMOCRATIC
TRADITIONS IN OUR COUNTRY AS WELL AS IN THE U.S., CAN
IN NO WAY STAND FOR THE POSITION OF THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE
PEOPLE.

IT IS TO RECALL THAT THE U.S. CONGRESS HAS SO FAR ENDORSED
AID APPROPRIATIONS FOR FRIENDLY NATIONS ON THE PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE
BASIS. HENCE ANY ALLEGATION THAT THE AID FUNDS RESERVED BY THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR THE VIETNAMESE HAVE BEEN AIMED AT HELPING
AN INDIVIDUAL AND IMPOSING A NEO-COLONIALIST REGIME IN THE RVN
CONSTITUTES A DENIAL OF THE OBJECTIVE TO DEFEND THE IDEAL OF
FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY HIGHLIGHTED IN THE AIDS IN GENERAL, AND
AN INSULT TO THE U.S. CONGRESS AND PEOPLE. THE RVN PEOPLE
NEVER ACCEPT SUCH AN UNGRATEFUL AND ABSURD ACT.

IF ONE CLAIMS THAT THE U.S. AID FOR THE RVN WAS DESIGNED
TO IMPOSE A NEO-COLONIALIST REGIME ON THE VIETNAMESE, ONE MUST
WONDER WHETHER THE ASSISTANCE THE U.S. CONGRESS RESERVES FOR
OTHER COUNTRIES CENTERS ON THE IMPOSITION OF ANY SUCH A REGIME
OR ON ITS PERSONAL SUPPORT FOR ANY INDIVIDUALS?

SO FAR THE U.S. CONGRESS HAS ENDORSED AID FUNDS TO HELP
PEOPLE OF FRIENDLY COUNTRIES IN THE PROTECTION OF THEIR FREEDOM
AND DEMOCRACY, THEIR SURVIVAL, THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION
AND OTHER FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS. IT IS THE REASON WHY
PEOPLES THE WORLD OVER USUALLY TURN TO THE AMERICANS WHENEVER
THEY FACE THE THREAT OF TYRANNY OR THE LOSS OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE
AND THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION. OBVIOUSLY,
MOST OF THE WORLD PEOPLES HAVE LOOKED UP TO THE AMERICANS AS
LEADER OF THE GLOBAL MOVEMENT FOR PRESERVATION OF FREEDOM AND
DEMOCRACY.

IN THAT DIRECTION, WE SOLEMNLY APPEAL TO YOU TO UPHOLD
THE TRADITIONS OF ALLIANCE OF THE FREE WORLD IN CONFORMITY
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 SAIGON 01849 191347Z

WITH THE CONSCIENCE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND YOUR OWN IN
THE CONSIDERATION OF THE PROBLEM OF AID FOR THE VN PEOPLE.

SINCERELY YOURS, SAIGON, FEBRUARY 4, 1975. SIGNED:
SEN. TRAN VAN LAM, SEN. TRAN MINH TUNG, SEN. HUYNH VAN CAO,
SEN. TRAN TRUNG DUNG, SEN. NGUYEN DUC TRANG, SEN. LE VAN
DONG, SEN. NGO VAN NHAM, SEN. LE VINH KIEN, SEN. NGUYEN
TOAI, SEN. KSOR ROT, SEN. TRAN NGOC OANH, SEN. KHIEU THIEN
KE, SEN. PHAN THONG, SEN. NGUYEN VAN THO, SEN. LE TAI QUAC,

SEN. DOAN VAN CUU, SEN. YA BA, SEN. KIM KHANH, SEN. LE SI CA,
SEN. PHAM NHU PHIEN, SEN. NGUYEN HUU LUONG, SEN. TRAN TAN TOAN,
SEN. NGUYEN THON DO, SEN. NGUYEN KHOA PHUOC, SEN. CAO VAN TUONG,
SEN. PHAM VAN HAT, SEN. NGUYEN VAN NGUU, SEN. PHAM DO THANH,
SEN. NGO KHAC TINH, SEN. TRAN VAN QUA, SEN. HOANG XUAN HAO,
SEN. NGUYEN VAN AN, SEN. NGUYEN VAN NHUE, SEN. LE PHUOC SANG,
SEN. PHAM NAM TRUONG, SEN. NGUYEN DUY TAI, SEN. PHAM VAN DIEM,
SEN. NGUYEN QUOI, SEN. SON THAI NGUYEN, SEN. NGUYEN VAN DIEU,
SEN. DAO HUU PHAN. END TEXT
MARTIN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, LEGISLATIVE MAIL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SAIGON01849
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750059-0378
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750231/aaaabbxy.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SAIGON 1100
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2003 by BrownAM>; APPROVED <16 JAN 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPEN LETTER FROM SOUTH VIETNAMESE SENATORS TO U.S. CONGRESS
TAGS: PINT, VS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006